

Targets to IFSP

As you begin intervention, you and your provider will talk about your priorities for your child -- things you want your child to be able to do (we call these goals). Many families have priorities and long-term goals that involve groups of skills like walking and talking. The question is often where should you begin to work on a long-term goal -- what is the best starting place? In FGRBI, your provider will use the words target, goal, and IFSP outcomes. While they sound a lot alike, they aren't quite the same. Knowing how we use the words may help you understand why we focus on targets during the session.

	What is it?	Examples
Target	Targets are the small steps that help reach the larger goal. In FGRBI, these targets are the WHAT Q. Targets should be things your child is ready to learn right now and things you can see and measure.	<p>Communication targets: Gesture (reach, point) to ask for things; vocalize using consonants; point to make choices, take turns or name objects.</p> <p>Motor targets: Pick up objects, put objects into a container, stand without support, crawl on all fours, cruise or walk</p>
Goal	Goals may involve groups of skills that cluster or are used together and take longer to learn. Goals may include several individual skills or targets.	<p>Communication Goal: Uses gestures and words to make requests or protest. This goal could include targets such as reaching toward or pointing to an object, using sounds to label the object and then learning the word.</p> <p>Motor Goal: Walking with support. This goal could include targets such as pulling to stand, maintaining balance, and walking along the table</p>
IFSP Outcome	Outcomes on the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) describe what you would like your child to learn, how it helps him or her participate in daily routines, and how it will be measured. The IFSP outcome should be functional, measurable, and meaningful to your family.	<p>IFSP Outcome: Beau will tell us what toys and books he wants during playtime by using words we can understand.</p> <p>IFSP Outcome: Jackie will walk to the kitchen from her bedroom holding Mom's hand in the morning so that she can eat breakfast with her sisters before school.</p>

Use the space below to reflect on your child's targets (the WHAT's) and how those lead to longer-term goals and IFSP outcomes:

Target _____ → Goal _____ → IFSP outcome _____